



Edition: BP 2025 (Ph. Eur. 11.6 update)

## Salicylic Acid Cream

### [General Notices](#)

*NOTE: This monograph has been developed to cover unlicensed formulations.*

### Action and use

Keratolytic.

### DEFINITION

Salicylic Acid Cream contains Salicylic Acid in [Aqueous Cream](#).

*The cream complies with the requirements stated under Topical Semi-solid Preparations and with the following requirements. Where appropriate, the cream also complies with the requirements stated under Unlicensed Medicines.*

### Content of salicylic acid, C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>3</sub>

95.0 to 105.0% of the stated amount.

### IDENTIFICATION

Shake 1 g with 10 mL of [water](#), filter and add to the filtrate [iron\(III\) chloride solution R1](#); an intense reddish violet colour is produced which persists on the addition of 6M [acetic acid](#). Add [2M hydrochloric acid](#); the colour disappears and a white, crystalline precipitate is produced.

### ASSAY

Dissolve a quantity of the cream containing 0.25 g of Salicylic Acid in a mixture of 20 mL of [ethanol](#) (96%), previously neutralised to [phenol red solution](#), and 20 mL of [ether](#) and titrate with [0.1M sodium hydroxide VS](#) using [phenol red solution](#) as indicator. Each mL of [0.1M sodium hydroxide VS](#) is equivalent to 13.81 mg of C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.